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SANITARY LEGISLATION.

STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO PUBLIC HEALTH.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Tuberculosis—Appropriation for Antituberculosis Society. (Act 2247, Feb. 11, 1913.)

On February 11, 1913, the Philippine Legislature appropriated 50,000 pesos "for the campaign for the extermination of tuberculosis by the Philippine Islands Anti-tuberculosis Society."

Drugs—Dentists Authorized to Prescribe Certain. (Act 2205, Jan. 16, 1913.)

SECTION 1. Duly registered dentists are hereby granted the right granted by act No. 1761 to physicians, to prescribe and administer opium, cocaine, alpha or beta eucaine, or any derivative or preparation of said drugs or substances as a medicine for dental purposes, subject to the regulations prescribed by the collector of internal revenue and approved by the secretary of finance and justice.

Sanitary Districts—Establishment and Support of. (Act 2232, Feb. 8, 1913.)

SECTION 1. Sections 1 and 6 of act No. 2156, entitled "An act authorizing the consolidation of municipalities into sanitary divisions and the reorganization of the municipal boards of health created by act No. 308, defining their powers and duties, and providing for each Province a special fund to be known as 'health funds,' for this and other purposes,"¹ are hereby amended, so that said sections shall read as follows:

"SECTION 1. Provincial boards are hereby authorized, for the purposes of health administration, to divide their Provinces into sanitary divisions, which may comprise one or more municipalities, but not more than four, and these divisions shall become effective in a Province whenever their organization has been agreed to by at least a majority of the municipal councils concerned: *Provided*, That to dissolve such sanitary division the vote of a majority of the municipalities concerned shall be necessary. Any group of municipalities joined to constitute a sanitary division may have a divisional board of health organized in accordance with the provisions of act No. 308 relative to the organization of municipal boards of health.

"There shall be for each division a president, who shall be appointed by the director of health from among the persons proposed by the municipal councils concerned and recommended by the provincial board. The powers, duties, and remuneration of such president shall be fixed in the manner hereinafter provided. The president of a sanitary division shall be a duly qualified physician and shall fulfill his duties under the immediate supervision of the district health officer: *Provided*, That in emergency conditions, of the existence of which the director of health shall judge, persons with qualifications satisfying the director of health may be appointed to act temporarily as presidents of municipal sanitary divisions.

"SEC. 6. Each municipality shall set aside each year an amount not less than 5 per centum nor more than 10 per centum from its general funds and each provincial

¹ This act was published in the Public Health Reports Apr. 18, 1913, pp. 753-756.

board shall set aside a like amount from its general funds, which amount, added to that appropriated by the municipalities under its jurisdiction, shall constitute a special fund to be known as 'health fund': *Provided*, That municipalities whose general funds do not exceed 3,000 pesos a year shall, upon application to the director of health, be exempted from the requirements of this section and shall in such case not be entitled to the benefits of this act.

"The health fund thus created shall be deposited with the provincial treasurer and shall be used only for the purpose of paying the salaries and traveling expenses of presidents, subordinate officers, and employees of the sanitary divisions of the Province, and the traveling expenses necessarily incurred by the same, from their place of residence, upon proceeding to their station to assume the office, upon appointment, and for the purchase of medicines, medical supplies, and disinfectants to be distributed among the municipalities concerned for sanitary and other medical purposes, and other incidental expenses for carrying out the purposes of this act: *Provided*, That, if at the close of the fiscal year there shall remain any balance in the health fund, provincial boards are hereby authorized to accumulate such balances from year to year for the purpose of establishing hospitals, benevolent institutions in the Province, or of carrying out other permanent sanitary improvements: *Provided further*, That whenever in the course of official service any president of a sanitary division travels to visit or attend any pay client or patient, he shall not be entitled to reimbursement for any traveling expenses incurred in this latter regard and shall state in a sworn voucher to accompany his claim for reimbursement that the claim does not include any such expense."

Infant Mortality—Committee to Investigate Causes of. (Act 2246, Feb. 11, 1913.)

SECTION 1. Section 1 of act No. 2116 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 1. For the purpose of investigating the causes of the excessive infantile mortality in the Philippine Islands and the methods which should be adopted to decrease it, a committee of five members is hereby created, of whom three shall be appointed by the Governor General, with the advice and consent of the Philippine Commission, and two shall be the professor of pediatrics in the University of the Philippines and the professor of pediatrics in the University of Santo Tomas. The committee shall be immediately organized and elect a chairman from among its members, and each member shall receive as compensation 20 pesos for each day of session actually attended by him and when traveling in the Provinces on official business; but if a Government officer is appointed on said committee he shall not receive the per diems provided for by this act: *Provided, however*, That the members of this committee shall be entitled to the same traveling expenses and per diems as bureau chiefs of the insular government."

SEC. 2. Sections 3 and 4 of act No. 2116 are hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 3. The committee is hereby authorized to employ a secretary, who shall be a typewriter and stenographer, and such subordinate personnel as it may deem necessary, and to purchase such stationery and office supplies, hire such transportation, and incur such incidental expenses as may be necessary for its work. The committee shall present to the third legislature during its second regular session, an exact report in English and Spanish of its work, with such recommendations and drafts of acts as may be necessary. On the same date the committee shall dissolve and be relieved of its functions.

"SEC. 4. The sum of 20,000 pesos, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated, out of any funds in the insular treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be expended by the committee for the payment of the per diems and any other necessary expenses for carrying out the purposes of this act."